

ERIE-NIAGARA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

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Co-Chairs:

Hon. Clyde Burmaster
Hon. William A. Pauly

MEMORANDUM

To: ENRP Chairs Burmaster & Pauly
From: ENRP Government Affairs Subcommittee Chair Barry Weinstein, M.D.
Re: February & March, 2001 subcommittee meetings
Date: March 30, 2001

The Erie-Niagara Regional Partnership's Government Affairs Subcommittee met February 12 and March 7, 2001 at Christino's at the Amherst Marriott. Present for the February meeting were Subcommittee members Weinstein, Lehman, McMahon, and Schuler. Present for the March meeting were members Weinstein, Connolly, and McMahon.

Subcommittee member Lehman gave updates on several initiatives. Erie County did not receive the state grant for e-permitting, but the effort will continue. A study involving cross-border Amtrack service is underway, as is fact-finding on the possibility of resurrecting a bi-county Planning Commission. ENRP member Rubin is one of the people heading up this effort. On e-permitting, it was reiterated that standardization amongst municipalities was also a goal. The tie in with REDD and countywide GIS was also discussed. It was noted that Niagara County could still participate in the planned e-permit pilot project, but that the project will take a bit longer to develop without the state grant.

A conversation between Subcommittee chair Weinstein and Buffalo Niagara Enterprise President Tom Kucharski regarding a possible bi-county site preparation and readiness study. **The ENRP Government Affairs Subcommittee recommends that the ENRP consider said proposal at the March general meeting.**

Other topics discussed included Niagara Falls redevelopment, the Niagara County charter review / county executive project, and energy purchasing. To that end, the subcommittee will begin data collection on identifying the existing energy and gas aggregates.

Members: Mr. Ronald Coan * Hon. John Connolly * Hon. Albert DeBenedetti * Mr. Thomas Dziedzic * Mr. Brian Eldridge * Hon. Bradley Erck * Mr. Samuel Ferraro * Hon. John Greenan * Mr. Clyde Johnston * Ms. Maria Lehman * Hon. Peter McMahon * Hon. Gerald Meal * Mr. Robert Miller * Hon. Sean O'Connor * Hon. Crystal Peoples * Mr. Lawrence Rubin * Mr. David Rutecki * Mr. Kevin Schuler * Mr. John Simon * Hon. Robert Villani * Hon. Barry Weinstein, M.D. * Mr. Peter Wendel * Ad Hoc: Mr. Luke Rich